

I would like to express my support for the ARRL's petition.

Here are the key reasons I strongly support the petition:

- New amateur radio operators are often not interested in morse code and are not learning about that side of the hobby.
- The number of amateur radio operators are not increasing. The people with HF access tend to be older hams. If you look out 15 years, we could have a lack of amateur radio operators with HF experience.
- New operators are often interested in data and digital aspects of the hobby now. I don't personally believe new operators have less interest in the hobby as a whole. Instead, I feel people interested in high technology are displacing people interested in morse code.
- If we don't offer some HF access to new operators, a large emergency communications resource will erode as the older operators with HF access begin to disappear. If we don't act soon, we could have a period of time where we have fewer trained HF operators. Sure, during an emergency, operators without HF access may temporarily assist in communications. But how much operating experience and equipment will they have if they haven't had access to the hobby?
- I believe, with the no-code tech license, we have discovered that "destruction to amateur radio" will not be an end result of removing the code requirement for all but the highest class.
- In short - making the outlined changes seem to be the only good choice when you start to look out 10 to 20 years. I urge the FCC to approve the petition.

Thanks for your time.

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